

ABSTRACT

A method of scanning for writing a pattern on a surface, including providing a scanning beam comprised of a plurality of independently addressable sub-beams, scanning the surface with the scanning beam a plurality of times, the sub-beams scanning the surface side-by-side in the cross-scan direction, each sub-beam being modulated to reflect information to be written, and overlapping the beams in successive scans in the cross scan direction such that all written areas of the surface are written on during at least two scans.